

Food Service

Plates and dishes

- ♦ Switch to reusable coffee mugs, plates and silverware
- ♦ If using disposable flatware, switch to biodegradable materials and compost the waste rather than disposing of it in the trash
- ♦ Place rubber mats around bus and dish washing stations to prevent breakage
- ♦ Install a magnet in the food waste collection bin to filter out metal silverware
- ♦ Check for discarded trays and flatware before throwing out dining room trash
- ♦ Have employees use permanent-ware mugs or cups for their drinks
- ♦ Offer customers a discount if they supply their own mugs, containers, or bags
- ♦ Use reusable take home containers for regular customers
- ♦ Use reusable containers instead of wrapping food in aluminum foil or plastic wrap
- ♦ Use serving containers in sizes that meet the packaging needs of your menu items without having excess packaging material
- ♦ Minimize the use of unnecessary packaging on take-out foods and use less packaging for eat-in foods, or none at all

Disposable packets

- ♦ Use "on the table" containers, such as cream pitchers, instead of individual packages
- ♦ Distribute condiments from behind the counter instead of offering self-service
- ♦ Ask take-out customers if they need items such as drink carriers and extra condiments
- ♦ Ask customers if they mind not receiving items such as tray slips, cup lids or extra condiments

Linens

- ♦ Use cloth hats, aprons, table cloth, and napkins instead of paper
- ♦ Use old aprons, tablecloths, dish towels, and other linens for cleaning rags or donate them
- ♦ Make place mats and aprons from stained tablecloths
- ♦ Use plastic or linen tablecloths instead of paper placemats
- ♦ Use a linen service to minimize non-recyclable paper waste
- ♦ Provide a cloth toweling system or LEED certified electric hand dryer in the restrooms rather than paper towels

Paper Supplies

- ♦ Limit the amount of paper information provided
- ♦ Advertise without paper when possible
- ♦ Use paper towels in rolls rather than pre-cut if you must use paper towels
- ♦ Use shredded office paper instead of packing peanuts for shipping